day to Rs. 1.50 subject to mandatory contribution of minimum fifty paisa by States and UTs to reach and the overall cost norm of Rs. 2. For the States of North-Eastern Region, the Central assistance would be Rs. 1.80 per child per school day with mandatory minimum contribution of twenty paisa by them.

In addition to the above, where convergence with other programmes is not feasible, assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-store and cooking/kitchen devices would be provided from the funds of the Scheme.

(c) and (d) The State Governments have been requested to immediately revise the cooking cost norm and provide necessary funds in the State Budget to meet their share.

(e) and (f) A few complaints, mostly featured in the newspapers, have come to the notice of the Government about inferior quality/unhygienic food and irregular supply of mid-day meal. As the scheme is implemented through State Governments, they have been continuously exhorted to give full attention to the issue of quality and regular supply. A new initiative has been launched w.e.f. 1.1.06 to mobilize mothers to take turns to oversee preparation of meal and feeding of children.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as source of earning for NGOs

†1381. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has become a source of earning a huge amount for Non-Governmental Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the children being educated under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan; and

(d) whether Government are having full information regarding the amount spent to educate one lakh children; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Assistance under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) extends to all Government primary and upper primary schools in the country. Provision for Education Guarantee centres and Alternative and Innovative Education for dropouts children, older children and children in difficult circumstances is also made under the SSA.

(d) The expenditure under SSA for the year 2005-06 was Rs. 9985.16 crore (approximately) covering all districts of the country and all primary schools in the Government and Government aided sector.

Campuses of American universities in the country

†1382. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether American Education Foundation has proposed to open campuses of its universities in India but has put the condition of not implementing reservation therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have stated that they would withdraw their proposal and close down the campuses if restrictions are imposed on their autonomy by Government; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir, there is no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Central status to Barkatullah University

†1383. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for giving status of a Central University to the Barkatullah University, Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh was sent to Government by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in September, 2004; and

(b) if so, whether the said University has been given the status of Central University?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.